

In the Claims:

1-8. (cancelled)

1 9. (previously presented) A PDC insert comprising:  
2 a. a plug section;  
3 b. a pedestal section atop the plug section, and wherein the pedestal section has  
4 a top and a side wall, the side wall having a frustoconical bevel surface  
5 thereon;  
6 c. a step between the plug section and the pedestal section; and  
7 d. a first convex curved surface on the side wall above the frustoconical bevel  
8 surface and a second convex curved surface on the side wall below the  
9 frustoconical bevel surface.

10. (cancelled)

1 11. (original) The insert of claim 9, wherein the insert defines an axis and further  
2 wherein the insert defines a back rake angle, and further wherein the bevel defines an angle  
3 to the axis approximately equal to the back rake angle.

12. (previously presented) A PDC insert comprising:

a. a plug section;

- b. a pedestal section atop the plug section and having a circular, flat top and a flat bevel surface forming a chord across the top;
- c. a step between the plug section and the pedestal section, wherein the insert defines an axis and further wherein the insert defines a back rake angle, and further wherein the flat bevel surface defines an angle to the axis approximately equal to the back rake angle.

13. (cancelled)

14. (previously presented) A PDC insert comprising:

- a. a plug section;
- b. a pedestal section atop the plug section, and wherein the pedestal section has a top and a side wall, the side wall having a frustoconical bevel surface thereon; and
- c. a step between the plug section and the pedestal section, wherein the insert defines an axis and further wherein the insert defines a back rake angle, and further wherein the bevel defines an angle to the axis approximately equal to the back rake angle.

15. (new) A PDC insert comprising:

- a. a plug section;

- b. a pedestal section atop the plug section, and wherein the pedestal section has a top and a side wall, the side wall having a frustoconical bevel surface thereon;
- c. a step between the plug section and the pedestal section; and
- d. a first convex curved surface on the side wall above the frustoconical bevel surface.